Romeo couldn't score.... Drove him crazy....

There was Gunga Dinn.... To have fun with.... Looking for HER SAILOR.... Didn't mind if there was one in every port.... So long as she was the only one in this port.... She wanted to see an upholstered fan-back that Romeo had set up on a Duncan Phyfe dining table.... He picked her up and put her in it.... She screamed with delight.... She asked him to deliver it that night.... Stay for supper.... She'd make a Caribbean dish.... Hot and spicy.... She was a good cook....

Not as good looking as Mrs. Heywood-Wakefield.... Cross between Gunga Dinn and Mrs. Howard Hughes.... Classy all right.... Hyphenated name.... Like the classic 50's maple furniute.... Elegant.... Functional.... She'd fallen on hard times.... Her luck was going to change.... She had projects.... Needed a backer.... Romeo wasn't sure.... Married.... Kids....

Mahogany Dining-Room Suite was married.... Lived in a big expensive empty house.... Romeo wasn't sure.... Maybe it was the romance of all those things....

Same with Isitolde.... Romeo was pretty old.... His things.... Mahogany china cabinets.... End-tables.... Armoires.... A lot older.... She lit on one thing after another.... Cawing like an old parrot.... Is it old.... If it was she bought it....

Roger's Cable was a similar connection.... Upright Piano.... Piano Roll... Mechanical.... Some of them didn't want things.... Just money and sex....

Don't forget Old Lady Pisser.... Made it big.... Massive Lecturer.... On honor and shame.... There were a couple of harmless inoperative concepts for you.... Shameless Rhodesian foot-washer.... Ancient Greece still with us.... Heroes have their feet in honor and shame.... There they were.... Tootsies again.... Always tip-toeing in.... With this Continuing Education crap.... Shit hit the hustings.... Like a politician with a new conservative party.... A rock star.... ELVIS....

But Dr. Trixie took the cake.... Straight out of a Halloween horror flick.... The star.... Elvira.... What she really didn't like was Johnny's asylum book.... In THE SLIME with Romeo.... She confessed.... She hated it.... The way Johnny Boy hated doctors.... The whole thing was a smear on THE PROFESSION.... She meant doctoring.... Not tarting.... Mamma wasn't paying her way through Med School for THIS.... To be abused by weirdo losers like Johnny....

Romeo said, everyone was a LITTLE WEIRD....

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Romeo liked to survey the business, reminiscing about pioneers. Those Benefactors of Madkind. Thomas Alva and C.K....

While Johnny cringed and sulked. Thinking about losers. What if, after Beresinas, Napoleon said uncle!

What Romeo liked most about it was sex.

Of course, he liked the money too, but it was never enough. It was trying to make it enough, and never succeeding, that spoiled the business.

It was rotten already. It had a bad name. It stank! Like the polar bears, when he was working on the North West Passage. They'd take a big bite out of a baby seal and throw it screaming onto an iceberg with the survivors of Greenpeace III, after he sank it.

It should have been the Titanic. He hoped they got it, about Nature.

He leaned over the railing, and spat. It was just a big snuff movie. Then he got bored,